

Bedfordshire County Football League



Season 2009-10

News Bulletin Number 16



Four Leagues Trophy Win for The Bedfordshire County Football League

Last week saw the lastest round of games being played in The Four Leagues Trophy, on Tuesday evening, The Peterborough & District Football League were to beat The Northamptonshire Football Combination 3-1, before 24 hours later under Cogenhoe United's floodlights, The Bedfordshire County Football League, thanks to a goal from Sharnbrook's, Richard Bridgestock 19 minutes into the contest claimed a 1-0 away victory over The Northampton Town Football League to join them at the head of the league table as the competition reached it's half-way stage.

The Bedfordshire County Football League will next be in action on Wednesday November 18th when they host The Peterborough & District Football League at Biggleswade United, Kick Off 7.45pm.

Four Leagues Trophy League Table at 26th October 2009

4 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Northampton Town League	3	2	0	1	6	3	+3	6
Bedfordshire County Football League	3	2	0	1	3	2	+1	6
Peterborough & District Football League	3	1	0	2	4	4	+0	3
Northamptonshire Combination	3	1	0	2	4	8	-4	3

Travellers Tales

Brian Buck looks back at his recent visit to Foxdells to take in the Division Two game between Brache Sparta Community Reserves and Clifton.

89th game of the season. (Match 9,512) Wednesday 30th September 2009. Brache Sparta Community Reserves 1 Clifton 1 (Bedfordshire County League Division 2) att 25 approx. As I hadn't visited Foxdell for a few seasons I took the opportunity to accompany the leagues Press and Media Secretary Peter Francis to this match. The

journey there was interesting as my sat nav took me down roads I've never been down before. None the less we arrived at the ground when the dam woman said we would! Since my last visit the club have added the word 'Community' to their title and it seems to be working as in the clubhouse both before the start and at half time there seemed to be very much a family feel to the place. Then the ref appeared. As he reminded Peter and myself, we'd seen him before. On that occasion he was more than a trifle hacked off because he'd been sent to the wrong ground to officiate. Tonight he reffed the game wearing tracksuit bottoms. Unusual, but within league rules according to Peter. However he gave the impression of being a school PE teacher who'd just reffed a rugby match. Nonetheless impressions count for nothing and he had a good game. Meanwhile two of the spectators present must have thought that they were in the back row of a cinema as they spent most of the match locked in a romantic embrace! Brache were unbeaten at this stage of the season, whilst the visitors hadn't won a match. After a very quite first half hour of the match, where the only highlight was listening to the traffic roaring by on the adjacent M1, the game flickered into life and on 38 minutes Clifton took the lead, against what little run of play there had been. The goal was a splendid one, out of context with the game and well worth the admission money! With the occasional plane flying overhead the second half was 'runway' traffic as Brache threw everything at Clifton to try and get the equaliser. They duly succeeded with a goal on 56 minutes. On 65 minutes it looked like the ref might send off the Clifton keeper when as last man he brought down a Brache attacker, but no cards were shown. After the equalising goal it seemed that Brache would go on and win, but eventually Clifton regrouped and ultimately a draw was a fair result. Eventually we saw a decent game for this level.

Action Review From Saturday 31st October 2009

Biggleswade United Reserves were to lose their seasons unbeaten away record and have their lead at the head of the Premier Division supported by Sportsform table reduced to just a single point when beaten 5-1 at Blunham. Four goals from Andy Smith plus a Matty McMahan strike taking the home side 5-0 clear before Jason Darvell hit United's consolation goal 10 minutes from time.

Renhold United, for the second week running, missed their opportunity to climb to the head of the standings when held to a 1-1 draw at Caldecote. Matt Basta shooting the home side ahead on nine minutes when latching onto a free kick from Paul Standen only to see Mo Banda level matters five minutes from the break, and that's the way it stayed despite United having to play out the closing 10 minutes with just ten men after Player-Manager Paul Daniels was sent off.

United, as a result of their stalemate at Caldecote, dropping down in the standings to third, being overtaken on goal difference by Campton after they won 3-2 at Westoning Recreation Club. Gary Gibson opening the scoring after five minutes for Campton before a successful penalty from Ian McGuinness levelled matters 17 minutes into the contest. Gibson then completed his hat-trick with goals in the 22nd and 41st minutes to take his side 3-1 clear by the break and despite a goal from Ian Buckingham after 65 minutes, Campton held on for the three points to claim second place in the league table.

Caldecote meanwhile had started the day in fourth slot but now find themselves sixth, Blunham taking over that fourth place following their win over Biggleswade United Reserves. Whilst AFC Kempston Town, thanks to a 2-1 victory at Southill Alexander move up into fifth slot, Justin Patterson giving The Town a 1-0 half-time lead before Nathan Mutuna levelled matters five minutes into the second period, only then to see Tom Pitts hit Town's winner.

For Sharnbrook, it was a first home win of the season when goals from Darren Wallinger and Ben Parrott took them to a 2-0 victory over a Dunton side that has now lost it's last four games to slip to seventh spot in the league standings.

Meanwhile, Ickwell & Old Warden won for the third consecutive time away from home, running out 4-2 winners at Oakley Sports. Goals from Chris Boniface and Ollie Housden shot the home side 2-0 ahead before a strike from Zak Rowe reduced the arrears to just a single goal just before the break, a strike from Anup Kalyan soon levelled matters in the second period until an Andrew Vallom penalty and another goal from Rowe took Ickwell to victory.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform Table at 31st October 2009

15 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Biggleswade United Reserves	10	6	1	3	23	17	+6	19
Campton	10	6	0	4	27	19	+8	18
Renhold United	9	5	3	1	20	13	+7	18
Blunham	8	5	1	2	26	16	+10	16
AFC Kempston Town	8	5	0	3	20	10	+10	15
Caldecote	9	4	2	3	18	11	+7	14
Dunton	11	4	1	6	21	17	+4	13
Sharnbrook	9	4	1	4	16	14	+2	13
Oakley Sports	7	4	0	3	13	11	+2	12
Ickwell & Old Warden	8	4	0	4	11	19	-8	12
Wilshamstead	7	3	2	2	15	10	+5	11
Southill Alexander	7	3	1	3	15	9	+6	10
Woburn	8	2	1	5	11	18	-7	7
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday]	9	2	1	6	18	35	-17	7
Riseley Sports	8	0	0	8	5	40	-35	0

For week number six on the bounce, we have a different leader of the Division One league table, this week it's the turn of Flitwick Town to climb back to the summit after the top two sides were defeated. Morning leaders Marston Social having their five game unbeaten run and seasons unbeaten away record end when losing 1-0 at Campton Reserves, a lone Barry O'Toole second half penalty doing the damage. Social losing out on the top spot to The Town who run out 4-2 home winners over Henlow. Dean Warren netting a hat-trick alongside a goal from Ben Wallington against Henlow replies from Glen Clark and Adam Cavell.

For second place Caldecote Reserves, it was an end to their 100% seasons away record and a drop in the table to fourth place after being beaten 6-2 at Bedford Sports Athletic. Ashley Mead and Darren Allen both netting twice alongside Danny Bond and Gary Canzano for The Athletic, whilst Tom Dupey hit both of Caldecote's replies.

Taking over third slot by returning to winning ways for the first time in four outings are Leighton United, 3-0 home winners over Kempston. A Darryl Smith penalty plus a strike from Jason Bartlett and an own goal, taking United to the three points.

For Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves, it was a first home win of the season and an end to a four game losing run with a 6-0 victory over Blunham Reserves. Lee Threadgold hitting a hat-trick, whilst Daniel Gaylor, Mathew Bruney and Lee Tetley weigh in with the other goals that was to put paid to their visitors unbeaten seasons away record.



Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves FC

Another side winning for the first time on home soil this season were AFC Kempston Town Reserves, 2-1 winners over Sandy, Earl Patterson netting both Town goals against a reply from Craig Baker.

Meanwhile, FC Meppershall were chalking up their third win on the bounce with a 6-5 victory at bottom of the table Kempston Hammers Sports, Tommy Donovan netting a hat-trick supported by single strikes from Patrick King, Jason Nice and Danny Wing against home replies from Matthew Mossop, Martyn Humphries, Nick Tysoe, Kevin Short and Richard Smith.

The final game of the day in this Division seeing Meltis Albion extend their unbeaten ways to five games with a 3-2 win at Stevington. The home side who are still yet to win on home soil this season went in front 2-0 thanks to goals from John Devereux and Aaron Fletcher, before The Albion hit back via a goal from Daniel Wells, an own goal plus a successful penalty from James Petty.

Division One League Table at 31st October 2009

16 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Flitwick Town	11	7	1	3	21	16	+5	22
Marston Social	10	6	2	2	22	13	+9	20
Leighton United	11	6	2	3	26	19	+7	20
Caldecote Reserves	10	6	1	3	28	19	+9	19
Kempston	9	6	0	3	24	20	+4	18
FC Meppershall	10	5	2	3	38	30	+8	17
Meltis Albion	10	5	2	3	22	17	+5	17
Bedford Sports Athletic	10	4	3	3	23	18	+5	15
Blunham Reserves	10	4	3	3	17	20	-3	15
Sandy	11	4	1	6	23	18	+5	13
Campton Reserves	10	4	0	6	22	26	-4	12
AFC Kempston Town Reserves	10	3	2	5	18	28	-10	11
Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	9	3	1	5	22	26	-4	10
Henlow	9	3	1	5	15	24	-9	10
Stevington	11	1	2	8	18	36	-18	5
Kempston Hammers Sports	9	1	1	7	18	27	-9	4

Potton Wanderers remain five points clear at the head of the Division Two league table and still unbeaten after nine outings, following a 4-1 home win over Great Barford. James Hearson, James Billington, Ricky Aris and Antony Schurek netting the vital goals against a lone reply from Daniel Stafford.

For second place Bedford Hatters, it was a 4-0 home victory over Shefford Town, a brace of goals from Richard Cook plus strikes from Michael Fry and Simon Pixley doing the damage.

Elsewhere, there were wins for the next three sides in the league standings, third place, Arlesey Social Galacticos, 4-1 away winners at bottom of the table Shillington, to retain their seasons unbeaten away record. Graeme Leger, Scott Leger and Lee Shambrook plus an own goal only being replied to by a strike from Lewis Osborne. Whilst fourth place Brache Sparta Community Reserves were 6-1 winners at Marabese Ceramics. Martin Collins and Richard Anderson both netting twice alongside single strikes from Ryan Coote and Chris Littlejohn, the lone home reply coming via Gary Bottazzi.



Marabese Ceramics FC

Making up that trio of winners were Marston Shelton Rovers, who continued their seasons unbeaten home ways and took their current unbeaten ways to seven games when a 75th minute penalty from Lee Dudley gave them a 1-0 win over Clifton.

Meanwhile, Harpur FC returned to winning ways for the first time in five outings with a 5-2 home win over Elstow Abbey, both Fabrizio Cataldo and Michael Stephenson

netted twice alongside an own goal, whilst the Abbey replies both came from David McCarthy.

The days final game in this Division seeing Kings AFC win 7-1 at Kempston Royals, Nathan Clements, Josh Clements who was then later sent off, Rowan Hazelwood, Ollie Plested, Andy Mayes, Mike Whelan and Ryan Kain all finding the back of the net against a home reply from Ian Turner.

Division Two League Table at 31st October 2009

14 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Potton Wanderers	9	8	1	0	40	9	+31	25
Bedford Hatters	9	6	2	1	34	13	+21	20
Arlesey Social Galacticos	8	6	1	1	19	10	+9	19
Brache Sparta Community Reserves	9	5	3	1	25	12	+13	18
Marston Shelton Rovers	8	5	2	1	26	12	+14	17
Kings AFC	8	4	0	4	27	21	+6	12
Great Barford	9	3	1	5	19	27	-8	10
Kempston Royals	9	3	1	5	16	28	-12	10
Shefford Town	8	3	0	5	13	18	-5	9
Harpur FC	8	2	2	4	19	23	-4	8
Marabese Ceramics	8	2	1	5	8	22	-14	7
Clifton	8	1	3	4	8	15	-7	6
Elstow Abbey 06	9	2	0	7	13	36	-23	6
Shillington [Saturday]	8	0	1	7	10	31	-21	1

Queens Park Crescents were to retain their seasons 100% away record and unbeaten ways, to draw four points clear at the head of the Division Three league table after winning 6-2 at second place Dunton Reserves. Ifzal Ahmed netting a hat-trick alongside single strikes from Shezad Sattar, Ayaz Hussain and Mohammed Raheem, the home replies came in the shape of a brace from John Fediw.

The comeback of the day however belonged to Caldecote A, who trailed on home soil against Riseley Sports Reserves 2-4 at half-time before running out 7-6 winners. Neil Giles, Dean Todd and Steve Bush all netting twice alongside Martin Steer for the

winner against four in reply from Tommy Dove plus strikes from Michael Henderson and Craig Ford for The Sportsman.

Renhold Village meanwhile, were seeing their unbeaten ways of four games end with a 5-2 home defeat at the hands of Lidlinton United Sports, a hat-trick from Jack Weedon plus goals from Andrew Toomey and Ben Marwood only being replied to by Village goals from Carl Townsend and Dan Luke.

For Wilshamstead Reserves, it was a first away win of the season, 5-2 at Sandy Reserves. Colin Merritt and Mark Kelly both netting twice alongside Glen Tumulty, whilst the home goals came via Dean Haines and Kevin Fage.

The days final game in this section seeing Stopsley Park extend their unbeaten ways to four games with a 2-2 home draw against Westoning Recreation Club Reserves. Dave Mycroft and Kenny Ivey the home marksmen against Rec Boys replies from Liam Boyle and Alex Barnwell.

Division Three League Table at 31st October 2009

10 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Queens Park Crescents	7	6	1	0	30	7	+23	19
Dunton Reserves	8	5	0	3	23	22	+1	15
Lidlinton United Sports	7	4	1	2	17	8	+9	13
Renhold Village	8	4	1	3	29	22	+7	13
Stopsley Park	6	2	3	1	27	15	+12	9
Wilshamstead Reserves	7	3	0	4	20	17	+3	9
Caldecote 'A'	7	3	0	4	14	37	-23	9
Westoning Recreation Club [Saturday] Reserves	7	2	1	4	11	18	-7	7
Sandy Reserves	7	1	1	5	11	26	-15	4
Riseley Sports Reserves	6	1	0	5	18	28	-10	3

The shock result of the day in Division Four saw the league leaders Sundon Park Rangers beaten 3-2 at Thurleigh, for whom it was a first home win of the season and a return to winning ways for the first time in six outings. Steve Pledge, Steph Wilson and Josh Simclair netting the vital goals against a brace in reply from Nikki Buttugeig.

M& DH Oakley thus moved to within one point of them and the non-playing Sharnbrook Reserves at the head of the table thanks to a 6-0 win at Bedford Park Rangers. Adam Emms netting twice alongside single strikes from Shaun Cafferty, Ollie Swain, Dan Ellison and Simon Thomas.

Clifton Reserves meantime were retaining their seasons unbeaten home ways with a 7-2 victory over Flitwick Town Reserves. Ross McNaught and David Dice on the scoresheet twice alongside single goals for Leighton Machin, Paul Roberts and Toby McNaught, whilst The Town replies both came from Mark Bartlett.

There were also plenty of goals at Hillgrounds, where Eastcotts run out 6-4 home winners over Stewartby Village. Ciaran Alexander hitting a brace, also weighing in with single strikes were Dominic Cooper, Shane Wilson, Liam Parker and Sean Bolton for the winners against a Village hat-trick for Michael Darnell and a penalty from Michael Cook.

The day's final game in this Division taking Kempston Athletic to a 2-1 home win over Dinamo Flitwick. Gary Whitbread plus an own goal doing the damage against a lone reply from Dean Gatew.

Division Four League Table at 31st October 2009

11 Teams	Games Played	Games Won	Games Drawn	Games Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goal Difference	Points
Sundon Park Rangers [Saturday]	9	6	1	2	49	16	+33	19
Sharnbrook Reserves	8	6	1	1	26	6	+20	19
M & DH Oakley	8	6	0	2	27	12	+15	18
Eastcotts	8	4	1	3	22	18	+4	13
Thurleigh	9	3	2	4	26	24	+2	11
Clifton Reserves	7	3	1	3	22	19	+3	10
Flitwick Town Reserves	7	3	0	4	14	31	-17	9
Dinamo Flitwick	7	2	2	3	15	17	-2	8
Stewartby Village	7	2	0	5	15	26	-11	6
Kempston Athletic	7	2	0	5	20	36	-16	6
Bedford Park Rangers	7	1	0	6	10	41	-31	3

Preview Saturday 7th November 2009

With just three points covering the leading four clubs at the head of the Premier Division supported by Sportsform league table, all of them could top the table with wins this weekend. League leaders Biggleswade United Reserves slender one point

lead at the summit coming under pressure at Second Meadow, where they seek to return to winning ways after two setbacks against visitors Oakley Sports, who travel looking for their fourth away win on the bounce.

Any slip up by United could see either Campton or Renhold United take over the top slot come the day's final whistles. Campton in home Rectory Road action against a Wilshamstead side that is yet to taste defeat on the road this season, whilst Renhold have a far from easy looking home encounter with Sharnbrook, who travel seeking to end United's unbeaten home ways with a third win on the bounce.

It is of course possible that Blunham could also top the table at the end of the day, but for that to happen, all of the three top clubs need to slip up plus their requirement, is a fourth win on the bounce when they journey to Crawley Road to face a Woburn side who will be looking to return to winning ways for the first time in five outings.

Other top flight action comes at Harvey Close, where Caldecote will be seeking their first home win of the season against visitors Southill Alexander, who travel unbeaten in their last three trips on the road, while just down the road on The Green, Ickwell & Old Warden receive a visit from fifth place AFC Kempston Town.

In the topsy turvy world in Division One, just five points cover the top seven sides, so we could well have a eighth new leader of the league table in as many weeks come the final whistles. However, Flitwick Town will be determined to hang onto their leadership, but their task is not an easy one, travelling to Miller Road to face seventh place Meltis Albion who are unbeaten in home action since the opening day of the season. Town knowing perhaps only a win will do as you would expect third place Leighton United, who trail them by just two points but with a better goal difference to come up with the full three points when they host third from bottom of the table Henlow at Stanbridge Road.

Second place Marston Social also, will be wanting to regain top slot and return to winning ways when at their Marston Playing Fields Headquarters they host sixth place FC Meppershall.

For the other sides still in the title race, its home action at Harvey Close for Caldecote Reserves, where they take on local rivals Campton Reserves, whilst at Cutler Hammer, Kempston face a home game against Bedford Sports Athletic.

At the other end of the table, both of the bottom two clubs face trips on the road. Basement club Kempston Hammers Sports heading to Hillgrounds for local derby action against AFC Kempston Town Reserves, while Stevington hit the road to Moggerhanger Playing Fields and a meeting with Blunham Reserves

The attention for the majority of the lower Division sides this weekend falls upon action in the Second Round of the Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup, where of the 15 ties taking place, eight are all Bedfordshire County Football League affairs, the top tie on paper being the all Division Two clash at The Warren, where reinstated to the competition Elstow Abbey host Kings AFC, the visitors travel looking for revenge after being defeated at the same venue in league action during September.

If you are looking where the giant killing acts might appear, then perhaps another reinstated club, Fourth Division M& DH Oakley, might just prove to be a good starting point when they hit the road to Gold Street to face Third Division Riseley Sports Reserves.

Also up for a spot of giant killing, are three other Division Four sides all hitting the road, Thurleigh on their way to Groveside to face Division Two side Marabese Ceramics, Eastcotts heading to Foxdell Recreation Ground to play Division Two outfit Brache Sparta Community Reserves and Sundon Park Rangers who make their way to Mill Lane for a meeting with current Division Two league leaders Potton Wanderers.

Hoping for a spot of giant killing on home soil will be two Division Three sides, Sandy Reserves, when they host Division Two Shillington at Bedford Road Recreation Ground and Westoning Recreation Club Reserves who entertain Division Two Clifton at Greenfield Road.

The eighth and final all Bedfordshire County league clash taking place at Jubilee Playing Fields, being an all Division Three affair between hosts Wilshamstead Reserves and visitors Renhold Village, the Village having won at the same venue in league action just three weeks ago.

For three other clubs its home action against Luton District & South Beds Football League opposition, Bedford Hatters hosting LB Galaxy at Miller Road, Great Barford entertaining Stopsley Baptist Church at their Playing Field Headquarters, whilst Harpur FC are due a visit by Co-Op Sports at the Bedford Hockey Centre.

Heading in the opposite direction however will be Sharnbrook Reserves, who journey to face Christians In Sport (Luton) and Marston Shelton Rovers who hit the road for a meeting with Luton Leagrave AFC Reserves.

The remaining two ties seeing Lidlington United Sports host North Bucks League, Heath Panthers United at Hurst Grove, while Queens Park Crescents hit the road for an away meeting with Heath Panthers United Reserves.

With all these cup ties taking place league Division Two action is reduced to just a single game at Arlesey Recreation Ground where Arlesey Social Galacticos will be hosting Kempston Royals.

The remainder of the lower Division sides going to action in Group matches in this seasons Watson Shield. Stopsley Park hosting Dinamo Flitwick at The Luton Regional Sports Centre, Bedford Park Rangers entertaining Dunton Reserves in Mowsbury Park, whilst Hillgrounds is the venue for Kempston Athletic home meeting with Caldecote A and at Steppingley Road, Flitwick Town Reserves receive a visit from Clifton Reserves.